

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 11304 261417Z

47/67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

STR-04 NIC-01 ARAE-00 /087 W
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O R 232210Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6284

INFO RUEBSG /AMCONSUL CALI 745

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS BOGOTA 11304

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN SHOULD READ 11304 VICE 11276)

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, CO, CU

SUBJECT: COLOMBIA LOOSENS CUBAN TRADE SANCTIONS AND WILL STUDY
RENEWAL OF RELATIONS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO IN A COMMUNIQUE TO THE PRESS
TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT COLOMBIA WOULD STUDY THE RESUMPTION
OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA AND HAS DECIDED TO REMOVE PROHI-
BITIONS ON THE EXPORT TO CUBA OF PRODUCTS OF COLOMBIAN
BRANCHES OF MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES. TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE
FOLLOWS:

"COMMUNIQUE OF THE DIRECTIVE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN
TRADE-THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEMBER OF THE
DIRECTIVE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN TRADE, HAS DECIDED TO CONVOKE
DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JANUARY THE COMMISSION OF
FOREIGN RELATIONS IN ORDER TO HEAR ITS OPINION REGARDING
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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 11304 261417Z

THE REESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC, COMMERCIAL, CONSULAR

AND COMMUNICATIONS RELATIONS BETWEEN COLOMBIA AND CUBA.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE DIRECTIVE COUNCIL, AT THE REQUEST OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THAT THE BRANCHES OF IMPORTANT MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES ARE TRADING WITH CUBA WITH THE CONSENT OF GOVERNMENTS WHICH, IN A RECENT CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN QUITO, ABSTAINED IN THE VOTING ON LIFTING THE SANCTIONS WHICH WERE DECREED AGAINST THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT IN 1964, HAS DECIDED TO REMOVE THE PROHIBITIONS AGAINST THE EXPORTATION TO CUBA OF PRODUCTS OF COLOMBIAN BRANCHES OF MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES, EXPORTS WHICH IN PRACTICE ARE THE OBJECT OF A SELF-SANCTION WHICH THE COUNTRY IMPOSES ON ITSELF IN ORDER TO RESPECT OBLIGATIONS TO WHICH OTHER STATES DO NOT FEEL OBLIGED TO ADHERE. THE DIRECTIVE COUNCIL AUTHORIZES INCOMEX TO REGULATE THE EXPORTATIONS OF PRODUCTS OF COLOMBIAN BRANCHES OF TRANSNATIONAL COMPANIES, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE FOREIGN TRADE OF THE REPUBLIC WILL THUS BE PLACED IN THE INDISPENSABLE CONDITIONS OF EQUALITY, A STEP WHICH IS NOT CONTRARY TO, RATHER THE CONTRARY, TO THE CONTINUANCE OF EFFORTS WHICH THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT HAS MADE SINCE IT TOOK THE INITIATIVE WITH COSTA RICA AND VENEZUELA TO CONVOKE THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN QUITO IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM CREATED BY THE OBSOLESCENCE OF DIPLOMATIC AND COMMERCIAL SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON CUBA".

2. COMMENT WILL FOLLOW.

VAKY

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